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REQUEST **FOR**

CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) **TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

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Applicătion Number	09/898,894
Filing Date	July 3, 2001
Examiner Name	Etienne Pierre Leroux
First Named Inventor	Steven S. Watanabe et al.
Group Art Unit	2161
Attorney Docket Number	112056-0003

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1.	Su	bmissio	n require	d under	37 C.F.R.	§ 1.114	<u> </u>					
	a. Previously submitted											
	i. ii. iii.	Co	Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered). Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on Other O7/20/2004 SZEWDIE1 00000005 09898894									
	b. i. ii iii. iv.	Aff	nendmer idavit(s)/	Declara		nent (IDS)	12 () () () () () () () () () (02 FC:18 03 FC:12 04 FC:12	01 01		770.00 430.00 306.00	ÖP
2.	Misce	llaneou	aneous									
	a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period ofmonths. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required) b. Other											
3.												
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